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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/679,394	10/03/2000	Jean Woloszko	S-9-2	7308	
21394	7590 12/19/2002				
ARTHROCARE CORPORATION			EXAMINER		
680 VAQUEROS AVENUE SUNNYVALE, CA 94085-3523			COHEN	COHEN, LEE S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			3739		
			DATE MAILED: 12/19/2002	<u> </u>	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The request for deferral/suspension of action under 37 CFR 1.103 has been approved.

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Application/Control Number: 09/679,394

Art Unit: 3739

## **SUSPENSION**

A reference relevant to the examination of this application may soon become available. Ex parte prosecution is SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lee S. Cohen whose telephone number is 703-308-2998. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:00-3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Linda Dvorak can be reached on 703-308-0994. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9302 for regular communications and 703-872-9303 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0858.

Lee S. Cohen Primary Examiner Art Unit 3739

LSC

December 16, 2002